



Michigan Supreme Court

State Court Administrative Office

Trial Court Services Division

Michigan Hall of Justice

P.O. Box 30048

Lansing, Michigan 48909

Phone (517) 373-4835

Jennifer Warner
Director

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 29, 2013

TO: All Michigan Certified Court Reporters, Recorders, and Operators

FROM: Denice Purves, Program Coordinator
Michigan Court Reporting/Recording Board of Review

RE: Annual Certification Renewal

Beginning June 1, you may renew your court reporting certification. If you have worked as a court reporter, recorder, or operator during the period September 1, 2012, through August 1, 2013, you are eligible to renew your certification pursuant to MCR 8.108.

All certifications must be processed through the Correcs system, which will be activated to accept renewals on June 1. You must indicate in the work history section of the renewal page how many hours, weeks, or months you worked in each certification you hold. Certified Electronic Operator (CEO) applicants must have worked a minimum of 10 hours for the period, and your chief judge must verify your work history. The Correcs system will provide a signature page that must be signed by the CEO and that CEO's chief judge and mailed to the State Court Administrative Office (SCAO).

Please check your Correcs personal information page to verify that both your personal and business addresses and phone numbers are current. Please include your direct phone extension if applicable. Please fill out both the home and business sections of the form, even if your business address is the same as your home address. If you work for a court or a court reporting firm, **please use the dropdown menus provided.** Be sure to indicate what county your business address is in. If your firm's name does not appear on the dropdown menu, please contact the SCAO at (517) 373-9526. You must include either your home or business e-mail address. The SCAO provides only business information to the public and does not share any e-mail addresses. To ensure that all of your information is saved, please scroll all the way to the bottom of the page and click on the "save" button.

The renewal fee is \$30. You may pay by check or credit card. **If you pay by check, you must print off and mail the payment insert sheet, along with your check,** to the address provided on the form. If you are a CEO and are paying by credit card, **you must still mail in the payment insert sheet containing your and the chief judge's signatures.**

The deadline to renew your certification is **August 1, 2013**. Any renewal **received** after August 1, 2013, will be assessed a \$100 late fee. If you are renewing by mail, please allow enough time for your payment to be **received by the August 1 deadline**. Any payment **received after August 1** that does not include the \$100 late fee will be returned to the sender without processing. Beginning at 12:00 a.m. August 2, 2013, the Correcs system will automatically assess a \$100 late fee to those who pay online. We recommend that you not wait until the last minute to renew, as potential heavy Internet traffic may delay the renewal process. **No refunds of late fees incurred will be given for any reason.**

All certifications expire on August 31, 2013. Reporters, recorders, and operators who do not process their certification renewal on or before August 31, 2013, **may no longer report or record proceedings** until the Board has reviewed the expired certification. Expired certifications cannot be processed through the Correcs system. Please go to <http://courts.mi.gov/Administration/SCAO/OfficesPrograms/CRR/Pages/Policies-for-Certification.aspx> to access the application form to request reinstatement of an expired certification.

If your employer pays your certification fee, **please complete the process early enough to allow sufficient time for check processing**. Please be sure that the correct paperwork is included with your employer's payment. If your employer uses self-enveloping checks, please request that the check be mailed with the appropriate paperwork. **PLEASE MAIL THE CHECK AND THE PAYMENT INSERT SHEET TOGETHER.**

Log onto <http://courts.michigan.gov/correcs> to renew your certification. Instructions for processing are posted at the sign on screen.

If you have any questions regarding this information or have trouble with the renewal process, you may e-mail CtRec-Info@courts.mi.gov for assistance.

All court reporting **firms** are required to process an annual online information update. Any firm that fails to meet the reporting requirement will be considered noncompliant and may be subject to a fine of up to \$500 in accordance with MCL 600.1492(2). If you are the owner of a court reporting firm and have not registered with the SCAO, please fill out and mail in the firm registration application form found at:
<http://courts.mi.gov/Administration/SCAO/Forms/courtforms/crr/SCAO11b.pdf>

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CREATING A NEW ACCOUNT AND ONLINE CERTIFICATION RENEWAL

If you have never accessed the Correcs system or have not previously set up your account in the Correcs system, begin with “Creating a user account” below. If you have already created an account, proceed to “Access Correcs System” below.

Creating a User Account

1. Go to <http://courts.michigan.gov/correcs>.
2. Under “Create New Account,” on the Reporter Login screen, click where it says “existing certification number.”
3. Enter your certification number (digits only), last name, date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy), and home zip code, and then click the “Continue” button.
4. A message will indicate if the system was able to match the information you entered with your certification record. If not, you will need to correct any erroneous data and click the “Continue” button again. If you continue to receive error messages, exit the system and send an e-mail to CtRec-Info@courts.mi.gov for assistance. If your information was entered correctly, continue with the next step.
5. Enter your e-mail address. Enter a password; retype the password for verification, then click the “Create Account” button.
6. You will receive an e-mail to keep for your records indicating that you have successfully created a Correcs account.
7. You just created your account. You may now move on to the renewal process. Proceed to **Renew Certification** below.

If you have already created an account in the Correcs system, begin here.

Access Correcs System

1. Go to <http://courts.michigan.gov/correcs>.
2. Type in your e-mail address and password.
3. If you have forgotten your password, click on “Request a New One” under “Reset Password.”

Renew Certification

1. Click on the “Personal Information” tab. Verify that your address and employment information are correct. Make any necessary corrections. In the employer information section, if you select “Firm” it will take a few seconds for the list to appear. If you change any information, click on the “Save” button. If possible, please list a **direct phone number** for work. Only employer information is available to the public.
2. Select the “Renewal Tab.” Only certifications expiring **August 31, 2013**, are eligible for renewal. Select all certifications that you are eligible to renew. You must have recorded proceedings in each designation you are renewing during September 1, 2012, through August 1, 2013, to be eligible to renew that certification. If you hold more than one certification, the fee is still a total of \$30.
3. Fill in the “Equipment Used” box.

4. Indicate “yes” or “no” to the felony question. If you answer yes, explain the circumstances.
5. Select your payment method: Visa, MasterCard, or check. Click the “Continue” button.

Choose Payment Option

If you choose the credit card method, follow the instructions and visual cues on the screen.

If you choose to pay by check, mail your check to Certification, PO Box 30048, Lansing, MI 48909. Include the payment insert sheet you are prompted to print after completing the payment process online. Be sure to obtain signatures, if necessary.

Additional Important Renewal Information

- If you have chosen to pay by check, you will print a page to mail with your payment. If your funding unit pays for your certification, this page is what you will submit to your funding unit to process the payment. **Please be sure your funding unit includes all payment insert sheets with their check.** Renew your certification early enough to allow the funding unit time to process before the August 1 deadline. **The late fee is \$100.**
- CEOs must obtain the signature of their chief judge. The system will prompt you to print a signature page. CEOs paying by check will send the signature page with their payment. CEOs making payment by credit card will mail only the signature page.
- Certification renewals paid by check **are not complete until payment is received and posted to your account.** It is imperative that you send the page the system prompts you to print with your payment for proper posting. A certification card cannot be printed until the payment is posted.
- Credit card payments post to the system automatically at the time of processing.
- You can track your renewal status through the Correcs system once you have processed your renewal. Various messages will appear on the renewal screen throughout the renewal season. Beginning June 1, the system will read “Ready.” As your certification processes, the screen will change to reflect your status.
 - If you renewed and paid by check, the status will be “Awaiting payment.”
 - After the payment is received and posted to the account, the status will change to “Payment received, card printed and expiration date updated, card(s) mailed.”
 - If you renewed and paid by credit card, the screen will read “Payment received.”
 - Once your card has been processed by SCAO staff, the screen will read “Payment received, card printed and expiration date updated, card(s) mailed.”
 - After August 31, the status will read “Season closed until June 1 of next year.”
Email CtRec-Info@courts.mi.gov to renew.

Cards are printed three times during the renewal season. Printings are generally performed approximately July 1, August 2, and September 1. The date your card will arrive in your mailbox will depend upon the date your renewal payment was received and processed. Certification cards should be received within two weeks of the July 1, August 2, or September 1 printing dates. If you do not receive your certification card, please send an e-mail to CtRec-Info@courts.mi.gov. Include your name, certification number, and payment information.